

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants appreciate the telephone conversation on January 27, 2009 with the Examiner regarding the Notice of Allowance and the Examiner's Amendments. Currently, Claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-20 have been allowed, and Claims 5, 15, 21, and 22 have been canceled via an Examiner's Amendment. As discussed, this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312 incorporates the allowable subject matter of now canceled Claims 5 and 15 into previous independent Claims 21 and 22. In particular, new Claim 23 corresponds to previous Claim 21, and new Claim 24 corresponds to previous Claim 22, wherein both Claims 23 and 24 incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claims 5 and 15 that was determined by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Thus, the amendments do not raise new issues or introduce new matter. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 23 and 24 are in condition for allowance.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON January 28, 2009.